

- (b) a fast release layer comprising:
- (i) a matrix forming agent; and
 - (ii) a second pharmaceutically active agent.
 - (iii)

Kindly add the following claims:

56. A freeze-dried pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- (a) a sustained release layer comprising:
 - (i) a water-soluble polymer; and
 - (ii) a first pharmaceutically active agent; and
- (b) a fast release layer comprising:
 - (i) a matrix forming agent; and
 - (ii) a second pharmaceutically active agent.

57. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said sustained release layer has a specific gravity of between about 1 and 1.2 g/mL.

58. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said sustained release layer has a density of between about 0.1 and about 0.5 g/cc.

59. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said water-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of celluloses, cellulose ethers, polycarboxylated vinyl polymers, polyurethanes, gelatins, polysaccharide gums, seed gums, crosslinked laginate gum gels, and any combination of any of the foregoing.

60. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said sustained release layer further comprises a fatty acid.

61. A composition according to claim 60 wherein said sustained release layer comprises from about 5 to about 70% by weight water-soluble polymer, from about 15 to about 95% of first pharmaceutically active agent and up to about 15% by weight fatty acid.

62. A composition according to claim 60 wherein said water-soluble polymer and said fatty acid are present in a ratio of from about 1:10 to about 3:5.

63. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said matrix forming agent is selected from the group consisting of animal and vegetable protein derivatives, gums, polysaccharides, alginates, carboxymethylcelluloses, carrageenans, dextrans, pectins, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyacrylic acid, polypeptide/protein compexes,

polypeptide/polysaccharide complexes, sugars, inorganic salts, amino acids having from about 2 to about 12 carbon atoms, and any combinations of any of the foregoing.

64. A composition according to claim 56 wherein said fast release layer comprises from about 0.5 to about 15% by weight of a matrix forming agent, based upon 100% total weight of fast release layer.

65. A freeze-dried pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a sustained release layer comprising:

- (i) a water-soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of celluloses, cellulose ethers, polycarboxylated vinyl polymers, polyurethanes, gelatins, polysaccharide gums, seed gums, crosslinked laginate gum gels, and any combination of any of the foregoing; and
- (ii) a first pharmaceutically active agent selected from the group consisting of metronidazole, miconazole nitrate, terconazole, chlorpheniramine maleate, pseudophedrine, dextromethorphan, meclizine dihydrochloride, haloperidol, albuterol sulfate, dimenhydrinate, benzodiazepines, and any combination of any of the foregoing; and

(b) a fast release layer, comprising:

- (i) a matrix forming agent selected from the group consisting of animal and vegetable protein derivatives, gums, polysaccharides, alginates, carboxymethylcelluloses, carrageenans, dextrans, pectins, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyacrylic acid, polypeptide/protein complexes, polypeptide/polysaccharide complexes, sugars, inorganic salts, amino acids having from about 2 to about 12 carbon atoms, and any combinations of any of the foregoing; and
- (ii) a second pharmaceutically active agent, selected from the group consisting of metronidazole, terconazole, miconazole nitrate, chlorpheniramine maleate, pseudophedrine, dextromethorphan, meclizine dihydrochloride, haloperidol, albuterol sulfate, dimenhydrinate, benzodiazepines, and any combination of any of the foregoing.

66. A freeze-dried pharmaceutical vaginal suppository composition comprising: